

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Image pickup processes of a plurality of image pickup apparatuses are synchronized by using one kind of communication medium (for example, IEEE1394-1995
5 standard or its extended standard). A control device selects a master camera from the plurality of image pickup apparatuses. The master camera generates a time stamp for synchronizing frame synchronization signals of all of the image pickup apparatuses
10 (including the master camera). All of the image pickup apparatuses (including the master camera) generate the frame synchronization signals on the basis of the time stamp generated by the master camera and generate image data on the basis of the
15 generated frame synchronization signals.